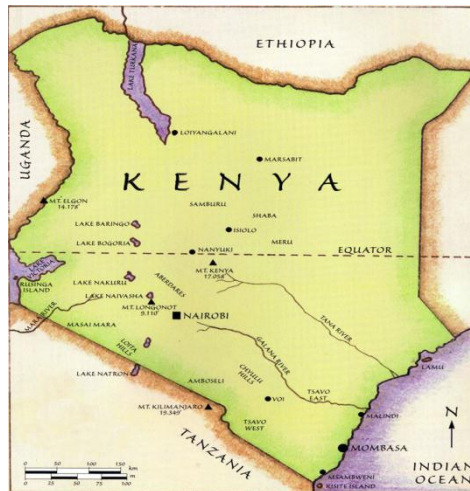


Kenya Domestic Media Monitor Report

August 23rd – September 20th, 2011

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Content Report:

1. 2012 Election
2. ICC Proceedings Heating Up
3. Nairobi Pipeline Explosion
4. Raid on Publishing Firm
5. Miscellaneous Violence Update

*Unless otherwise stated,
all articles were written in English*

1. 2012 Election

“Brace for media blackout over hate speech, Kenya politicians warned”
Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper
September 14th, 2011

The Media Council of Kenya and the National Cohesion and Integration Commission have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to deny media coverage to any politicians or journalists attempting to use hate speech leading up to the 2012 elections. In an effort to avoid a relapse of the ethnic violence that took place following the last election in 2007-08, the two organizations will monitor media coverage and take action against those who attempt to divide Kenyans along tribal lines. Media Council of Kenya



Executive Director Harun Mwangi said "We plan to organise very well coordinated training workshops for journalists geared towards ensuring that the next elections are covered in a way that unifies rather than divide the country,".

“Kalonzo: Court must provide direction on elections”

KBC, state-owned broadcasting corporation

September 15th, 2011

A Cabinet proposal to push back the date for the 2012 elections has been handed over to the Supreme Court after Justice Minister Mutula Kilonzo ruled that the Court is the only institution able to make the decision. The election was originally scheduled for August 14th, 2012, as mandated by article 101 of the Constitution. However, Cabinet has proposed to push it back to December 19th for practical reasons. This latest debate comes amidst claims of a ploy to manipulate the process of appointing commissioners to serve in the independent electoral and boundaries commission.

“MPs threaten to reject list of IEBC nominees”

KBC, state-owned broadcasting corporation

September 17th, 2011

Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Uhuru Kenyatta has accused the panel responsible for choosing the list of candidates for the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission of being biased. Threatening to lobby legislators to reject the candidates, Uhuru claimed that the panel was attempting to rig the 2012 elections by not including commissioners who served on the interim independent electoral commission. The panel's Chairman Dr Ekuru Aukot defended his team, saying the selection was thorough, and that merit, integrity, gender, regional consideration and retention of expertise were considered as required by the Constitution.

2. ICC Proceedings Heating Up

"Nyanja in defence of Uhuru over ICC"

The Star, privately-owned newspaper

August 26, 2011

George Nyanja, a Kenyan MP allied to Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, one of the six currently on trial at the International Criminal Court, has threatened to “wipe out” white settlers of Kenya if the decision does not go in Kenyatta’s favour: “if Uhuru



does not return to the country after the confirmation hearings, then the whites should not be in Kenya. I have said that they will have to go back to their home", said Nyanja.

"MP faces hate call claims at The Hague"

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

September 9, 2011

As the confirmation of charges hearing began against three of six Kenyan suspects at the International Criminal Court, another MP has been accused of hate speech. A lawyer representing the victims of the 2007-08 post-election violence accused MP Charles Keter of portraying the Nandi sub-tribe as traitors for providing witnesses for the ICC. Referring to witnesses in the trial, Mr. Keter is quoted as saying "They are traitors among the Kalenjin. We are aware of them. We know the witnesses and we are returning home,". Keter, who was also accused of having warned of "unspecified consequences" when the confirmation of charges ended, denied the accusations.

"I was offered Sh100m to fix Uhuru, says man"

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

September 20, 2011

A Kenyan former military officer has alleged that International Criminal Court investigators attempted to bribe him for speaking out against Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta following the post-election violence. Just days before the confirmation of charges hearing was set to begin, a sworn affidavit dated September 12th surfaced, in which Rev John Mathenge claimed that ICC officers offered him "Sh100 million and security" in exchange for a statement saying that Mr Kenyatta gave him money and military uniform. The hearings are scheduled to last until October 5th.

"Muthaura, Ali and Uhuru to take the stand at ICC"

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

September 20th, 2011

On Wednesday, September 21st, the second group of defendants will commence their confirmation of charges hearing for crimes of murder, forcible transfer of populations, rape, persecution and other inhumane acts at the International Criminal Court at The Hague. Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, Civil Service Head Francis Muthaura, and Postmaster-General Hussein Ali are set to take the stand over crimes from Kenya's post-election violence in 2007/08 in which 1,133 people were killed and nearly 600,000 displaced.

3. Nairobi Pipeline Explosion

“100 killed in Nairobi fuel fire”

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

September 12, 2011

More than 100 people have died after an oil pipeline exploded in a Nairobi slum on Monday, September 12th. The Kenya Pipeline Company had shut down the pipeline after a leak was detected, but rain had spread the leak into a Ngong River, on the banks of the slum. Villagers had reportedly rushed to scoop up gasoline when the explosion occurred. One witness described the events as if “it was like hell,” comparing the flames to what he has seen in movies about the Hiroshima nuclear bombing.

"Negligence made oil pipeline tragedy inevitable",

The Standard, privately-owned newspaper

September 13, 2011

This article puts the blame for oil pipeline disaster on the Kenyan Pipeline Company, City Council of Nairobi, Ministry of Energy and the judiciary. Citing the government’s failure to implement the National Policy for Disaster Management, the article contends that the loss of life could have been avoided had governmental regulations been enforced.

The article argues further that it was the government’s responsibility to ensure that slum-dwellers not build their homes in such close proximity to a pipeline, as any accident could be “catastrophic”. This newspaper had warned previously of the danger faced by residents of slums when the government allows them to build their homes anywhere. A special audit carried out recently also indicates that this particular pipeline should have been replaced years ago for safety reasons, as its failsafe mechanisms could no longer be guaranteed in case of an emergency.

“MPs faulted in slum tragedies”

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

September 20, 2011

Two members of the Catholic Church in Sinai, the slum where the pipeline explosion claimed more than 100 lives, blamed politicians for blocking the relocation of the Sinai residents. “The politicians are part of the problem here,” said one of the church officials. “Despite the dangers, they don’t want these people relocated for fear of losing votes.”

The Kenyan Pipeline Corporation had issued eviction notices to the slum-dwellers living next to the pipeline in 2009, but they remained in place after their demands a governmental relocation plan went unmet.

The founder of Mungiki, the politico-religious group and banned criminal organization suspected of perpetrating the post-election violence in 2007-08, visited the slum on September 20th. The article claims that this fits into a now-familiar pattern. Politicians compete to reach scenes of misfortune to attract media cameras, but once the cameras are gone, they revert back to normal life without taking action.

4. Raid on Private Publishing Firm

**Kenyan news magazine offices raided, "crucial" documents stolen
KTN, privately-owned TV station
September 9, 2011**

The offices of the Nairobi Law Monthly Magazine were raided at 2:00 am on the morning of September 9th, with reports of computers, servers, and files stolen. The publisher of the magazine claimed that among the stolen files was information which implicated certain government officials and that was scheduled to be published in the upcoming issue.

Among other scandals, the stolen information dealt with that of the Charterhouse Bank , which Charterhouse Bank was placed under Central Bank of Kenya's statutory management in 2006 over claims of money laundering and tax evasion. A lawyer representing the magazine alluded to elements within the government, the intelligence department in particular, as having been complicit.

Ahmednasir Abdullahi, the magazine's publisher, is a member of the Judicial Service Commission which oversaw judicial reforms. Most of the serving judges examined by Abdullahi lost their jobs in the process.

5. Miscellaneous Violence Update

**"Seven killed in bandit raid on herders"
Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper
September 8, 2011**



Seven people were killed in Garbatula District on September 8th when raiders attacked a group of herders. Garbatula District Commissioner Joseph Onyango said hundreds of herders from Kulamawe had moved to Lososia grazing zone to escape drought. According to the regional deputy commissioner, the herders had escaped from Lososia last week following similar attacks in the area where three people were killed and more than 250 animals stolen. He accused the government of applying double standards in providing security, enforcing one district to disarm while allowing a neighbouring one to keep their weapons. Three police reservists were among those killed in the raid.

"Ethiopian rebels fight in Kenya"
The Standard, privately-owned newspaper
September 12

The conflict between the Ethiopian government and the secessionist Ogaden National Liberation Front has spilled over into Garissa county in north-eastern Kenya after the group split into factions and began fighting each other. The factions have been fighting for the last three months, resulting to casualties on both Kenya and Ethiopia sides as they hunt each other and suspected Kenyan collaborators. The chairman of the Garissa branch of the Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya claimed that "foreign fighters had taken over Garissa." Wajir South MP Mohamed Sirat has also raised concern over increased attacks by heavily armed bandits along the Kenya-Somalia border. The MP added that in the last six months, more than 14 people have been killed in Habaswein District by bandits operating along the border.

"Raila rushed to safety in Nairobi grenade scare"
Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper
September 20th, 2011

Prime Minister Raila Odinga was evacuated from his office after a grenade was found outside in the yard. Both Mr. Odinga and Chief Justice Willy Mutunga, who he was meeting with at the time, are safe. Bomb experts and the Department of Defense spent nearly four hours searching the premises following the incident.

